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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 2887.0219-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
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TAKAHIRO IKEDA ET AL.) Group Art Unit: 2624
)
Application No.: 10/807,188) Examiner: S. Chawan
)
Filed: March 24, 2004) Confirmation No.: 3749
)
For: GRAPHIC CONTOUR)
EXTRACTING METHOD,)
PATTERN INSPECTING)
METHOD, PROGRAM AND)
PATTERN INSPECTION SYSTEM)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant respectfully requests that the Information Disclosure Statement be placed in the file and understands that it will not be considered by the Patent Office.

The listed documents were first cited in an Office Action issued by the Japanese Patent Office on January 8, 2008, in a counterpart Japanese application. Applicant provides English-language abstracts of the listed Japanese publications.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: Jan. 22, 2008

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